



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

) Date: February 2, 2004

Robert A. Cordery, et al.

) Attorney Docket No.: F-726

Serial No.: 10/622,331

) Customer No.: 00919

Filed: July 18, 2003

) Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.: 4828

)

For: **CLOSED LOOP POSTAGE METERING SYSTEM**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b) exists.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the

statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provisions, as identified below with marked boxes, available under 37 CFR § 1.97:

1. 37 CFR §1.97(b) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to one of the following: (i) within 3 months of the filing date of this application (other than a CPA); (ii) within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

2. 37 CFR §1.97(c) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by the statement or fee as identified below:

2.1 Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

2.2 Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

OR

2.3 Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**** Provisional Fee Authorization.** If Box 2.1 or Box 2.2 is marked above and a final action under § 1.113 has in fact been mailed before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as if Box 2.3 had been marked.

OR

3. 37 CFR §1.97(d) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and it is accompanied by the statement and fee as identified below:

3.1.1 Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

3.1.2 Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

AND

3.2 Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - No item of information contained in

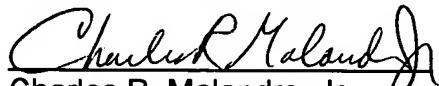
the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified). A copy of the "Foreign Patent" and "Other Document" set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified) are attached hereto.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. **16-1885**.

A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed for use in charging the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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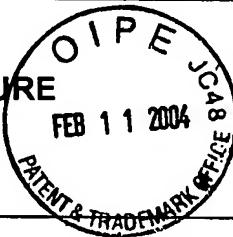
On February 9, 2004
Date of Deposit

Esther A. Lapin
Name of Rep.

Esther A. Lapin
Signature

February 9, 2004
Date

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**
Atty. Docket Number
F-726Serial No.
10/622,331Applicant
Robert A. Cordery, et al.Filing Date
July 18, 2003

Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,752,950	June 1988	Carpentier			
	AB	5,019,991	May 1991	Sansone, et al.			
	AC	5,072,397	Dec. 1991	Barns-Slavin, et al.			
	AD	5,229,932	July 1993	Connell, et al.			
	AE	5,444,630	Aug. 1995	Slugos			
	AF	5,475,603	Dec. 1995	Korowotny			
	AG	5,995,950	Nov. 1999	Barns-Slavin, et al.			
	AH	6,532,452 B1	March 2003	Pintsov, et al.			
	AI	6,592,027 B2	July 2003	Kovlakas			
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL	EP 1111376 A2	July 2001	EPO			No
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	"Mailing for less means mailing smarter" (One-to-One Marketing Inc. mailing services) <i>L/ Business News</i> , n38, p45(1), September 29, 1993.
	AS	

EXAMINER _____ DATE CONSIDERED _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;
 Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next
 communication to applicant.